

GREENBELT News Review

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APRIL 18, 2013



PHOTO BY BEVERLY PALAU

At the ACE awards ceremony on April 8, from left to right: Rosalind Ceasar, Jon Gardner (ACE), Elsie Waynes (ACE), County Councilmember Ingrid Turner, Sarah Verbofsky, Community Liaison for Del Alonzo Washington, School Board Member Peggy Higgins, Councilmember Konrad Herling, Andrew Karnes from Greenbelt Elementary, Councilmember Edward Putens, Leonor Fernandez from Magnolia Elementary, Mayor Judith Davis, Shana Sterkin from Springhill Lake Elementary, Councilmember Emmett Jordan, Brenda Mayo from Turning Point Academy, Donald Rich (ACE), Councilmember Rodney Roberts, Robert Stradford from Greenbelt Middle School, Councilmember Silke Pope and Janet Mirsky (ACE). Not pictured is Sally Wagner from Eleanor Roosevelt High School, whose award was accepted by Principal Reginald McNeill.

ACE Educator Awards Presented At Greenbelt City Council Meeting

by Mary Moien

Presentation of the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) Educator Awards was the first item of business at the April 8 Greenbelt City Council meeting. ACE Treasurer Janet Mirsky and Committee Member Don Rich led the awards ceremony.

Mirsky began by thanking council for sponsoring the Awards. ACE inaugurated the Educator Awards in 1996, making this the 18th consecutive year. Mirsky stated that “This record is a testament to the council’s continued and energetic support of our schools and education.”

Formed in 1994, the purpose

of ACE is to serve as a liaison between the Greenbelt community and the council, addressing education issues and promoting high quality schools. ACE works primarily with the council, school principals and the PTSAs to address these issues.

Educator Awards

The ACE Educator Awards recognize school-based adults who each have made exceptional contributions to the area schools that Greenbelt children attend. Many individuals contribute to the school experience of students. A recipient may be any dedicated, capable member of the school team whether a teacher, a

guidance counselor, other professional staff member, support staff or building staff. ACE selects one award recipient from each school, based on nominations from the school’s administration.

The awards were announced and citations read and each recipient came to the podium to say a few words.

(Material about each awardee was provided by the school’s administration.)

Greenbelt Elementary

Andrew Karnes is the Instructional Lead Teacher at Greenbelt Elementary School. In his role as Instructional Lead Teacher, Karnes provides guidance and instructional expertise to teachers. He conducts informal observations of the teachers, provides immediate feedback and makes suggestions for improvement. This is his first year at the school; he has worked in education for nine years.

Although he is new to the staff at Greenbelt Elementary, he has built a collegial relationship with Principal Monica Gaines based on their shared instructional goals and a desire to build the capacity of the teachers.

Karnes is self-motivated, knowledgeable and always willing to give a helping hand. In addition to his other responsibilities, he has taken on the tasks of being the Testing Coordinator, TAG Coordinator and Math Chairperson.

See **ACE AWARDS**, page 6

Ordinances and Resolutions Put Before City Council

by Barbara Hopkins

At its regular meeting on Monday, April 8 the Greenbelt City Council introduced two ordinances and two resolutions for first reading. For one resolution, the rules were suspended and it was read a second time and adopted. The other legislation will be introduced for second reading and adoption at council’s meeting on April 22.

Amending City Code

Councilmember Emmett Jordan introduced for first reading an ordinance to amend city code to provide that appointed members of the Advisory Planning Board, Board of Appeals and others identified from time to time by city council be required to complete an Annual Report of Financial Interest, which is described in the ordinance.

A second ordinance amending city code provides a definition of confidential information and prescribes a course of action to be taken when such information is improperly disseminated. It was introduced by Councilmember Edward Putens. (See separate story.)

A resolution is required for a negotiated purchase that exceeds \$10,000. Council, at its last meeting, asked staff to purchase an

organizational assessment of the city from The Matrix Consulting Group for \$49,900. Mayor Judith Davis said Councilmember Leta Mach, who was not at the meeting, had sent her approval to suspend the rules so the resolution could be adopted that same night.

This was done and the resolution passed with a vote of five to one. Councilmember Rodney Roberts was the sole dissenter, saying that everyone he had talked to about such studies had said they were not worth the money. He thought in tight budgetary times council should not spend money this way.

Davis said the study may show some organizational changes could provide savings. Citizen Bill Orleans said he thought that council and the city manager could assess the city’s organizational structure at a considerable savings.

Orleans also took the opportunity to say he thought citizens should have access to city legislation when it is introduced so the public is aware of it before council enacts it. His requests to speak earlier went unrecognized by the mayor because discussion

See **COUNCIL**, page 7

Proposal Made to Punish Violations of Confidence

by Mary Lou Williamson

An ordinance prohibiting the disclosure of confidential information by a member of council or a city employee will be considered by the Greenbelt City Council at its next meeting on Monday, April 22. The ordinance, which was brought up for first reading at the April 8 meeting with no discussion, will now be considered for final passage.

The proposed ordinance defines “confidential information,” prohibits disclosure of such information by a member of council or a city employee and proposes an investigation by the city manager and potential penalties that include a fine of up to \$1,000 and up to 30 days’ incarceration.

Incident

In a May 29, 2012, meeting of council reported in this newspaper, the issue of improvements to the Sunnyside Avenue bridge sought by county officials prompted Councilmember Rodney Roberts to make this disclosure concerning the city’s interest in the bridge project. “All of a sudden, the county, just out of nowhere, said: we need to do this project,” [Roberts] said. “And then I see this communication where the county has decided that they’ve settled on essentially two sites for the FBI, trying to

lure them here to the county: one being the North Core of the Metro Station and the other being BARC itself.” The story goes on to report, “Ultimately it was Roberts’ reference to the ‘communication’ . . . which drew council’s fire and a sharp expression of concern from City Manager Michael McLaughlin,” who then asked council to stop the discussion “seeking protection for the contents of the email he said the county sent in confidence as ‘an opportunity for council to get briefed.’”

This issue is referred to in the city’s minutes of the July 9, 2012, meeting. Council then referred the matter to the city’s ethics committee and to the city solicitor “requesting clarification on proper handling of confidential information.”

On September 10, 2012, City Solicitor Robert A. Manzi responded with a memorandum first publicly released as a part of the April 4 staff agenda comments. Manzi offers some definitions for “confidential” and then discusses two ways to proceed “if a person breeches information given to the city.” One is by addressing the issue

See **PROPOSAL**, page 6

What Goes On

Saturday, April 20

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Public Works Open House, Public Works Facility

Noon to 3 p.m., Earth Day and Arbor Day Celebration, SHL Recreation Center

2 to 6 p.m., Celebration of Spring, SHL Recreation Center

Monday, April 22

8 p.m., City Council Meeting/Public Hearing on FY 2014 Budget, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbeltnmd.gov

Tuesday, April 23

7 p.m., Advisory Committee on Education Meeting, Municipal Building

7:30 p.m., Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (GreenACES), Community Center

Wednesday, April 24

7:30 p.m., Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center

Saturday, April 27

9 a.m. to noon, Electronics Recycling, Public Works Yard

Editorial

Vote of No Confidence

The Greenbelt City Council should unanimously reject the proposed ordinance to penalize any city councilmember or city official or employee by “incarceration up to a period of thirty (30) days” for “disclosing confidential information.” In the institutional memory of News Review staff members, a memory span far longer than that of any councilmember or member of city staff, there has never occurred an instance of violation of confidentiality so egregious as to warrant jail time. Certainly imprisonment is not warranted for the revelation of information last year that has brought this proposed ordinance before the council, information which in our judgment should not have been confidential in the first place.

In fact, if there has been an error on the part of any council or staff member, we believe it has been the withholding of information that should be public. The City of Greenbelt is a public body expected to conduct its business openly and with full participation of its citizens in a democratic process. Operating in secrecy, particularly as it relates to development of property, is the enabler for corruption in government, as has been recently demonstrated by the bribery convictions of Prince George’s County officials. There is very little reason for any matter coming before council to be treated as confidential. Indeed most such matters are already regulated by state law.

We further consider the proposed ordinance as too broad and open-ended in its definition of confidentiality and for directing the city manager, an employee of the council, to investigate councilmembers who may have violated this law, and thus placing the manager in the middle of what could easily be a political squabble. We also object to declaring such offenses misdemeanors “punishable by incarceration up to a period of thirty (30) days and a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00.”

If council feels it necessary to legislate, may we suggest instead of the proposed ordinance an ordinance making it an offense with suitable penalties for any city official, elected or appointed, to withhold public information from the public?

In Our Opinion

A Poorly Crafted Ordinance Is Drafted from a Bad Idea

by Thomas X. White and James Giese

In the more than 50 years that we have been following Greenbelt city government, one as a city councilmember for 30 years and the other as city manager for 28 years and both as observers and reporters, we have never seen as bad a piece of legislation proposed as the ordinance on confidential information now before the city council for adoption. We strongly support the editorial position of the Greenbelt News Review on this matter.

Every citizen of Greenbelt who believes in an open democratic process should make known to the members of the Greenbelt City Council that this ordinance should be forthrightly rejected. Instead of fostering secrecy, Greenbelt City Councilmembers should be expanding open participation by all citizens in the conduct of the business of the city.

The incident last year in which Councilmember Rodney Roberts disclosed information about efforts of county and other public officials to secure the re-

location of a public facility, the FBI headquarters, to the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, another public facility, was not an appropriate matter to be undertaken in secrecy, in our opinion.

There are very few city matters that require confidentiality. Much that must be treated as confidential is already regulated by law. Violations of confidentiality by councilmembers should not be treated as violations of law but rather as violations of council procedures.

We also find the proposed ordinance to be poorly crafted. There are absolutely no criteria set forth as to what kind of information is appropriate to be withheld from the public by a public agency. The proposed ordinance further charges the Greenbelt city manager with investigating his or her bosses, the city council. Under no circumstance should a city manager be put in such a position, and particularly so when it is one councilmember accusing another of impropriety.

Correction

The first person to catch and notify us of last week’s blooper in the front page lead article “Revenues Are Focus of First City Council FY-14 Budget Worksession” was City Manager Michael McLaughlin, who correctly informed us the proposed 2 cent tax increase would raise \$365,200 and that the wrongly stated \$3.6 million resulted from too many zeros. Correcting the record right after him was Councilmember Konrad Herling, who added “too bad it is not true.”

Smell Gas?

(Sulfur or rotten eggs)

Call Washington Gas Light

800-752-7520 or 911

Letters

THANKS!

I want to thank my friends for coming to my 95th birthday party. It was so good to see you all and to be able to talk to each other.

I also want to thank you for the lovely gifts you gave me, such as beautiful plants and delicious boxes of sweets. Unfortunately, I do not know who brought what: it all was a little overwhelming. So I am using this letter to let you know how much I enjoy and savor your gifts! And of course how much I loved your company!

As you may remember, I moved back to Greenbelt a few days after the party, on April 1. It is a wonderful experience to be back home. And I am so very fortunate that one of my grandsons is staying with me.

So let me close with what we all know and which I can now again experience firsthand: Greenbelt is Great!

Leonie Penney

Thanks to All Donors To Scholarship Fund

The David Craig Memorial Scholarship Fund (DCMSF) was established in 1986 to honor and perpetuate the memory of David R.S. Craig, a Greenbelt resident and ERHS 1979 graduate who was killed in an automobile accident. Known to his friends and classmates as “Maggs,” Craig’s legacy was as a community volunteer, athlete, person of faith and a loyal and kind friend. It was his “well-roundedness” that formed the scholarship mantra of “Well Rounded, Well Rewarded.”

The scholarship, in its 27th year, has paid out over \$110,000 since the first May 1987 recipient was selected. The DCMSF is totally funded by private contributions whose loyal donors – many of them with connections to Greenbelt, ERHS and the Craig family make it a uniquely local charity. Its mission of providing financial assistance for education

See LETTERS, page 12

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF April 19

Place Beyond the Pines (R)

FRIDAY

*5, 8

SATURDAY – SUNDAY

*2, *5, 8

MONDAY – THURSDAY

*4:45, 7:30

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 26: THE BIG WEDDING

*These shows at \$6.50

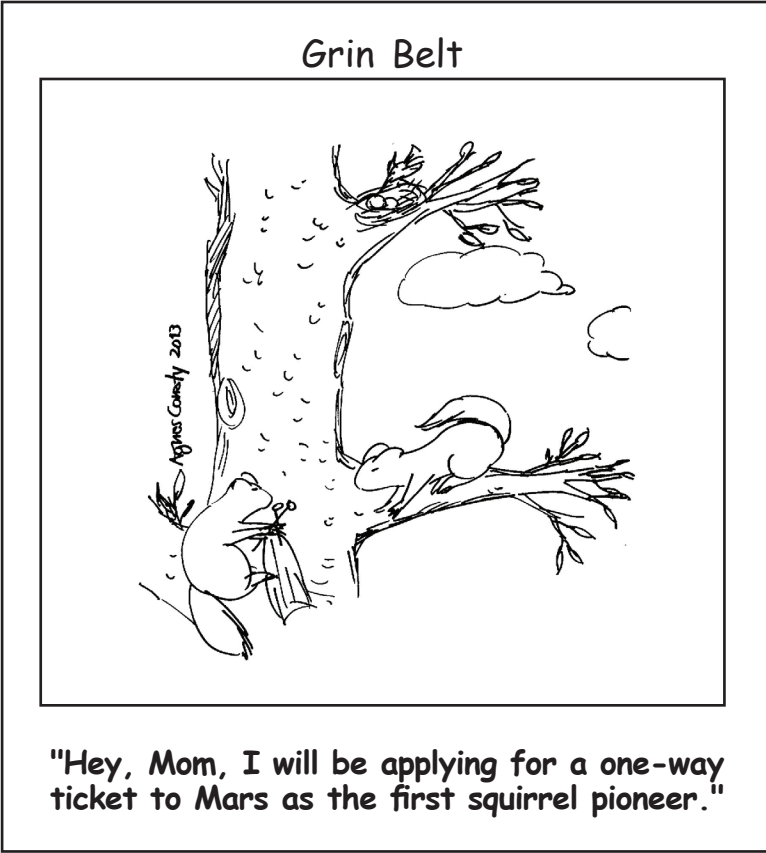
Tuesday is Bargain Day. All Seats Only \$5.00.

Now accepting Visa, Discover and MasterCard for ticket sales and concessions.

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745

129 Centerway

www.pandgtheatres.com



GES New Parent Open House on Fri.

A New Parent Open House will be held at Greenbelt Elementary School (GES) on Friday, April 19 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for those planning to enroll a child in the school for the first time.

Sponsored by the school’s PTA, newcomers to GES are invited to come meet school staff and parent members of the PTA, join in a tour of the school, observe a classroom and talk with parents whose children are already enrolled.

GES is at 66 Ridge Road.

Nursery School Holds Tortoise/Hare Outing

On Saturday, April 27 the Greenbelt Nursery School will host a Tortoise and Hare 1k and 5k run/walk around Greenbelt Lake, rain or shine. The 5k run/walk starts at 8 a.m. and the 1k at 9 a.m., beginning and ending at the ball fields behind the Greenbelt Youth Center. Participants may run or walk. No strollers or dogs are allowed.

There is a fee; proceeds will go to the school scholarship fund. A race entry form can be obtained at www.getmeregistered.com or by calling 301-474-5570.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624

Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 301-474-1526

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Marat Moore, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg and Altoria Bell Ross

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition “Food and Friendship” program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for April 22 to 26 are:

Monday – Apple juice, baked chicken breast with Mexican sauce, rice pilaf, green cabbage, diced peaches.

Tuesday – Orange juice, split pea soup with crackers, turkey salad, tossed salad, fresh fruit.

Wednesday – Grape juice, Salisbury steak with onion gravy, mashed spiced yams, green beans, applesauce.

Thursday – Pineapple juice, oven-fried chicken thighs, green peas, stewed tomatoes, fresh fruit.

Friday – Apple juice, veggie patty with barbecue sauce, whipped potatoes, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit.

Bankruptcy Court Holds Blood Drive

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court of the District of Maryland, 6500 Cherrywood Lane, will host a Red Cross blood donation drive on Thursday, April 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. As an incentive to donate, each donor will be entered in a raffle to win a \$50 gift card.

Blood donors must be at least 17 years old and meet minimum weight requirements. Bring a donor card, driver’s license or two other forms of identification. Appointments are encouraged but not required. For more information on donating or to make an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org.

At the Library

Read to Rover

Saturday, April 20, 2 p.m.: Children ages 6 to 11 build confidence by reading aloud to specially trained therapy dogs. Each child reads for 15 minutes. Registration is required; call 301-345-5800.

Adult Programs

Tuesday, April 23, 7 p.m.: African American historian and author/lecturer C.R. Gibbs presents an audio-visual lecture for adults and older children on the African Diaspora, “Ancient Nubia: Kings of the Nile.” Participants will learn the secrets of a 6,000-year-old African civilization that rivals that of Ancient Egypt.

Storytimes

On Wednesdays and Thursdays, a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props. Pick up a free ticket from the information desk before the session.

Wednesday, April 24, 10:30 a.m.: Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years.

Thursday, April 25, 10:30 a.m.: Toddler Time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver.

For more information visit the Greenbelt Library, call 301-345-5800 or visit the library system website at www.pgcmlls.info for a number of library services, to review accounts or renew materials. For automated phone renewal call 301-333-3111.

Join the Cajun Jam At New Deal Café

On Wednesday, April 24 a free Cajun Jam will be held at the New Deal Café from 7 to 9:30 p.m. for dancers, musicians and listeners who enjoy Cajun music. Beginners are welcome.

For more information visit www.newdealcafe.com.

Greenbriar Phase III Elects New Officers

At its reconvened annual meeting on April 9 the following officers and board members were elected for the coming year: President Thelma Loret de Mola, Vice President Angeline Butler, Secretary Frances Kemper, Treasurer Odella King and Director Anne Weldon.

Board meetings are held at the community building monthly for each association, with owners and residents encouraged to attend. Phase III meets the second Tuesday of the month at 5:45 p.m., with Phases I and II meeting the second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. and the Greenbriar Community Association board meeting at 6 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday.

Greenbriar Phase II Elects New Officers

At its reconvened annual meeting on April 9, the following officers and board members of Greenbriar Phase II were elected for the coming year: President Mary Blizzard, Vice President Jackie Gray, Secretary Linda Kulle, Treasurer Sharon Sheldon and Director Sherre Washington.

Greenbriar Phase I and Phase II meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m., with owners and residents encouraged to attend. Phase III meets the second Tuesday of the month at 4:45 p.m., and monthly meetings of the Greenbriar Community Association board are held at 6 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday.

Explore Women’s Financial Needs

The Explorations Unlimited topic for next Friday, April 26 is the special financial beliefs and needs of women.

The speaker will be Lorie Scheibel, who will talk about the most common misconceptions women have about general financial strategies, retirement and estate planning and insurance, as well as money and relationships, providing guidance on strategies to help women manage their finances. Participants are invited to pose their financial, retirement or estate questions to receive the information most needed to make provisions for their assets.

Scheibel is a registered representative and investment advisor who offers securities and investment advisory services through AXA Advisors, LLC.

Explorations Unlimited is held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center, Room 114. All are welcome and questions are encouraged.

For more information call 301-397-2208.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday
10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. **301-345-5111**

More Community Events
can be found throughout
the paper.



Babe Ruth Baseball Signups

Players age13-15 call Mark @ 301 755-3315
Email: mark.markowich@t-mobile.com

Players age16-18 call Bob @ 301 345-1033
Email: bbsoneveldt@verizon.net



Greenbelt Arts Center Continuing This Week!



BIG RIVER

April 19th - May 4th

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm

Sunday Matinees (April 21 & 28) at 2:00pm

Ticket prices: \$20 General Admission \$17 Students/Seniors/Military

Take our GAC patrons survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/FYJS9FK>

For information & reservations,
call 301-441-8770 or email: info@greenbeltartscenter.org or
BOOK TICKETS ONLINE at www.greenbeltartscenter.org

Coming Soon to the Greenbelt Arts Center:

May 24 – A Moon for the Misbegotten
June 21st – An Unexpected Guest

Greenbelt Arts Center
123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

Open Microphone For Kids on Sunday

A Kids’ Open Microphone session will take the stage at the New Deal Café on Sunday, April 21 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. It is held on the third Sunday of every month. Children up to age 17 are invited to play a musical instrument, sing, dance, juggle, recite a poem or otherwise perform.

For more information call Anne Gardner at 301-220-1721 or email annegrn@yahoo.com.

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CENTER COURT OF BELTWAY PLAZA
301-220-1155

www.academy8theaters.com

Most features are \$5.00
all day on Tuesdays. Add \$2 for 3D.

R = ID Required

(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

WEEK OF APRIL 19

FRIDAY – SATURDAY – TUESDAY

Scary Movie 5, PG-13 (!)
11:50, 2:35, 5:15, 7:40, 9:50
42, PG-13 (!)
11, 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 10
The Evil Dead, PG-13
11:55, 2:40, 5:20, 7:30, 9:55
Tyler Perry’s: Temptation, PG-13
11:25, 2:20, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
Olympus Has Fallen, R
11, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 10
G.I. Joe Retaliation, PG-13
11:20, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 10
The Croods in 2D, PG
11:45, 2:30, 7:20
The Croods in 3D, PG
5:05, 9:35
Oblivion, PG-13 (!)
11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50

SUNDAY – MONDAY

Scary Movie 5, PG-13 (!)
11:50, 2:35, 5:15, 7:40
42, PG-13 (!)
11, 1:45, 4:25, 7:15
The Evil Dead, PG-13
11:55, 2:40, 5:20, 7:30
Tyler Perry’s: Temptation, PG-13
11:25, 2:20, 5:05, 7:35
Olympus Has Fallen, R
11, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10
G.I. Joe Retaliation, PG-13
11:20, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30
The Croods in 2D, PG
11:45, 2:30, 7:20
The Croods in 3D, PG
5:05
Oblivion, PG-13 (!)
11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05

WEDNESDAY – THURSDAY

Scary Movie 5, PG-13 (!)
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11, 1:45, 4:25, 7:15
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Olympus Has Fallen, R
11, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10
G.I. Joe Retaliation, PG-13
11:20, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30
The Croods in 2D, PG
11:45, 2:30, 7:20
The Croods in 3D, PG
5:05
Oblivion, PG-13 (!)
11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05



**Greenbelt Nursery School’s
Tortoise and Hare 5K Run/Walk
Saturday April 27, 8am,
around Greenbelt Lake.
1K Fun run 9am - \$5**

Packet pickup Friday April 26 from 5-7:30 pm
Saturday April 27, 7:00 am at Greenbelt Nursery School

Advance registration \$20; Race Day registration \$30
Online Registration Ends April 23 at www.getmeregistered.com

NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING

Thursday, April 25, 2013

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Spring Sidewalk Repairs Contract, 2nd Reading
- Contract for Replacement Reserves’ Study for GHI Homes, 2nd Reading
- Exception Request for Serviceside Entry Door, 4J Plateau Place
- Review of 2012 Audit Report
- Addition Maintenance Task Force Recommendations on Skylights
- Proposed Topics for Stakeholder Meeting with City of Greenbelt on June 12, 2013
- Invitation from City of Greenbelt to Participate in Peace Month Activities in June

Regular Board meetings are open to Members

For more information, visit our website - www.ghi.coop



To request a sign language interpreter for this meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, or go to the GHI Office (One Hamilton Place) or contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).

Council Worksession Explores Concerns of Local Religious Groups

Carol Griffith

The Greenbelt City Council worksession with Greenbelt’s clergy and religious organizations, held on March 18, was both a forum in which each entity could highlight its activities and the springboard for a lively discussion of how these groups and the city can best work together for the common good of all residents. All councilmembers attended, as did Rick Ransom, representing the Community Relations Advisory Board.

Mayor Judith Davis opened the meeting by requesting an update of current activities from each entity. The Greenbelt Baha’i Community introduced their Junior Youth Group for young men and women ages 15 through 25, which endeavors to increase spiritual and individual development and to serve as a “catalyst for unity.” The program uses spiritual concepts common to all religions as well as emphasizing service to others.

The Rev. Bobbi Troyer of Streetlights of Bethany gave a snapshot of her work in Greenbelt, Hyattsville and Riverdale. She described her services as “rescue with a spiritual basis,” aimed at assisting the homeless and the mentally ill, regardless of whether these individuals accept her spiritual advice. These services include such practical tasks as providing free produce.

The Catholic Community, which meets in the Municipal Building, was represented by Trudy Conrad. As a member of the Greenbelt Interfaith Alliance, Conrad listed the events for which it is best known – the sunrise nondenominational Easter service, the Thanksgiving interfaith service and the baccalaureate ceremony at Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Conrad listed the Catholic Community’s work with the Ladies of Charity and Greenbelt CARES in providing assistance to persons in need.

Safe Haven

Conrad then described their assistance with the Safe Haven/Warm Nights program. Warm Nights is a fixed-location homeless shelter for women and children. Safe Haven is a seasonal homeless shelter for men that rotates its location among churches in the county, including Greenbelt Baptist Church, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Good Samaritan Church in Lanham and the Greenbelt Community Church. Several other groups, including the Catholic Community, assist with providing meals.

Gloria Cline-Smythe of Good Samaritan Lutheran Church then discussed her church’s ongoing activities. She ended by noting the importance of the various religious groups working together to coordinate services to the community.

St. Hugh of Grenoble Catholic Church was represented by Larry Yore and Mary Ann Tretler.

Yore discussed the church’s

food pantry, which is run by St. Hugh’s Ladies of Charity with assistance from other groups, including the Mishkan Torah Synagogue and, as Davis then added, the Democratic Club. Yore reported that the “need has greatly increased” for food. He said the pantry is now serving about 21 families a week and many of those have members who are employed full time.

Eviction Relief

Davis then pointed out the role of the city’s Eviction Relief Fund as complementing the work of the food pantry. She said the fund is in need of more contributions. The Rev. Clara Young, interim pastor of the Community Church, then added that the Good Samaritan Fund, now administered by Greenbelt CARES, also needs funds.

Davis asked Yore about uses, current and proposed, for the now-closed Catholic school. He replied that it was being used for the youth group and other meetings.

Yore also discussed the Gabriel Project, by which the church provides assistance to women in crisis pregnancies. He requested, but was denied permission, to discuss “the abortion clinic in Berwyn Heights.”

Matilda Banga and Emanuel Daramola of the Restoration Center began their presentation to council by announcing the church’s move to the old post office site underneath the Co-op Supermarket. The move will add 250 more seats for the church from the current capacity of the movie theater where the church now holds services.

Banga listed the church’s activities as running a food bank

program, “This Too Shall Pass,” which feeds about 265 people. The group also works with residents of Franklin Park and hosts several youth activities that provide training to increase job skills that also help in preparing them for college. The church is now considering the feasibility of opening a school in its new space.

Community Church

The Rev. Young spoke of the activities of the Community Church. She mentioned its work with Safe Haven and assistance provided during Christmas week by Mishkan Torah, as well as donations to Help-by-Phone, a group that operates several food pantries throughout the county and organizes the Safe Haven/Warm Nights program, as well as various other outreach activities such as donating eyeglasses to Springhill Lake Elementary School.

Mowatt United Methodist Church was represented by Ellen Noll, who drew special attention from council with her description of the church’s outreach to youth crossing the Spellman Overpass after school. In order to give a “personal touch,” she said, members of the church greet each child with some cookies and a friendly question about his or her day at school.

Noll invited others to help, as there were several days a week when not enough volunteers had been available to go to the overpass. She also mentioned providing yoga classes and sponsoring a Boy Scout troop as other church activities.

The last group to provide an update of its current activities was Paint Branch Unitarian Universal-

ist Church, represented by the Rev. Diane Teichert. The church works for social justice and environmental issues, she reported, and sponsors an Earth Scouts troop, an alternative scouting program. Its community activity center offers many classes, such as yoga and meditation, and also provides tutoring in English and preparation for citizenship.

Davis then asked the groups to describe their activities for senior citizens, given the aging of Greenbelt. No group was able to name a specific program that cared for such groups.

Community Concerns

Davis then asked each group to name concerns it had for the community. The Rev. Troyer mentioned “genteel care,” that is, care for those who are newly impoverished, who are afraid to ask for help and who don’t know who or how to ask. She also discussed her experiences in caring for seniors who are mentally ill and homeless.

Marjorie Owens, also representing Paint Branch, named domestic violence as a significant concern. Jobs, especially for young people, and assisting the homeless in finding jobs were also mentioned.

The Rev. Young then added that a large problem with hunger still exists in our area. The demand for food is too great for the combined services of the religious organizations, she said. Noll added that more volunteers are needed and that the organizations must work together. The Rev. Teichert suggested that creative housing solutions, such as group homes, might help the homeless problem.

The Rev. Troyer suggested accessing and possibly partnering with the Food Recovery Network, a group recently publicized for its efforts to reclaim food from restaurants for distribution to the poor.

Councilmembers then offered suggestions. Konrad Herling suggested that GATE might be able to assist in advertising services; Leta Mach suggested that the groups seek intergenerational help with their programs; and Silke Pope asked the groups to allow the city to assist in getting information about services to city residents.

Edward Putens summarized the day’s discussion as “the start of something big.” He noted the “unique opportunity” for the city and the religious groups to work together to resolve the problems of the city’s vulnerable citizens.




Greenbelt
BAPTIST CHURCH
Worship Service 11:00am

All Welcome!

April 21st
“What Will the Resurrection Body Be Like?”
I Corinthians 15:35-49


April 28th
“How Should I Live in Light of the Resurrection?”
I Corinthians 15:50-58

101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770
(301)474-4212 www.greenbeltbaptist.org



Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community




Sunday at 10 a.m.
Rev. Diane Teichert
See our website: www.pbuuc.org



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor
Worship Service 10 a.m.



ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322



Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe



Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltucc.org
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Clara Young, Interim Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart,
the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."

St. George's Episcopal Church
Join us around a table where all are welcome!





Services

- Sundays
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)
10 a.m. main service
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
- Wednesdays
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Rev. Mary Pullen - Pastor
301-474-7573
6301 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740





Worship : Sun 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Child Care Available)
Sunday School : Sun 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Office Hours : Mon, Thu, Fri 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Tue, Wed 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"



Congregation
Mishkan Torah

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K-12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

ALL ARE WELCOME.



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FY2014 BUDGET
Monday, April 22, 2013 - 8:00 p.m.
Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- National Board Certified Teachers
- National Kids to Parks Day Proclamation
- Introduction of New Police Officer

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

Public Hearing on the FY 2014 Budget

Minutes of Council Meetings

Administrative Reports

Council Reports

Committee Reports

- Park and Recreation Advisory Board, Report #13-1 (Contribution and Recognition Groups)

LEGISLATION

- An Ordinance to Amend Article 1 “In General” of Chapter 2 “Administration” of the Greenbelt City Code to Add a New Section 2-4 Entitled “Confidential Information”
 - 2nd Reading, Adoption
- An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 2 “Administration” Article IV “Ethics” of the Greenbelt City Code
 - 2nd Reading, Adoption
- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of an Emergency Back-Up Generator for the Greenbelt Municipal Building from Cummins Power Systems
 - 2nd Reading, Adoption
- A Resolution to Negotiate the Purchase of a New Truck Body and Lift Gate from Intercon Truck Equipment of Joppa, Maryland at cost of \$15,431
 - 1st Reading

OTHER BUSINESS

- Greenbelt Farmer’s Market - Request for Wine Sampling
- Advisory Planning Board, Report #2013-1 – Sunnyside Avenue Bridge Replacement Project
- Approval of a Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the City of Greenbelt and Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 32 to Take Effect July 2, 2013
- Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Formula 2040
- Other Reports
- * - Reappointment to Advisory Groups

MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltnmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

VOTE FOR THE OLD GREENBELT THEATRE!

Stay tuned for an exciting, upcoming program where you can help the City win \$100,000 toward the theater renovation project just by voting on-line daily, between April 24 and May 5.

Visit www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt or twitter @cityofgreenbelt#greenbelttheatre during those dates for more information!

SAVE THE DATE!

Bike to Work Day 2013

Friday, May 17th

Greenbelt Pit Stop at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center
www.biketoworkmetrodc.org

HAVE YOU VISITED THE GREENBELT ANIMAL SHELTER LATELY?

550-A Crescent Road
(behind Police Station)

Give us a call 301-474-6124

Come out and visit all of the available pets!

The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment.

See all our pets on Facebook!

Special Program Through May 11!

BARTER FOR BARKS: DONATE TO ADOPT

Donate your time, dog biscuits, cat litter, animal food or any amount of monetary donation to take home a new best friend. You must qualify as an adopter prior to the animal going home. This includes an application, signing a contract and agreeing to a home check.

CELEBRATION OF SPRING EARTH DAY & PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE Saturday, April 20

PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE
555 CRESCENT ROAD, 10:00am-2:00 pm
Come out to the Public Works Facility to enjoy demonstrations, tours, and hot dogs & light refreshments.
Info: 301-474-8004.

EARTH DAY AND ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION
SPRINGHILL LAKE RECREATION CENTER, 12:00pm-3:00pm
Join the City and CHEARS in installing rain barrels, planting native plants, and addressing erosion and storm water quality issues. Members of the Advisory Committee on Trees will celebrate Arbor Day with a tree planting at 2:00pm. We will offer a guided tour of significant trees in Greenbelt at 3:00pm. For more information about Earth Day, Arbor Day or the Tree Tour contact Brian Townsend at 301-474- 8004.

CELEBRATION OF SPRING
SPRINGHILL LAKE RECREATION CENTER, 2:00pm-6:00pm
Come enjoy arts and crafts, activities, performances, food and music with the Greenbelt Recreation Department and your neighbors and friends. Children and parents alike will be delighted on this fun filled day. This will be the perfect family event to help shake off the cold days of winter as we spring into action during our Celebration of Spring. Please call 301-474-0646, the weather information hotline, the morning of the event for updated event status.



MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 22--26

Monday, April 22 at 8:00 pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FY2014 BUDGET** at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and Streaming at www.greenbeltnmd.gov

Tuesday, April 23 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**, at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Rd.

Tuesday, April 23 at 7:30pm, **GREENBELT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY** (Green ACES) at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Wednesday, April 24 at 7:30pm, **GREENBELT ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD MEETING** at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road.

Wednesday, April 24 at 7:30 pm, **FOUR CITIES MEETING** at New Carrollton.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Saturday, April 27 from 9am-12noon
Public Works Yard, 555 Crescent Road

Accepted items include: TVs, CPUs, monitors, key-boards, mice, printers, laptop computers, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires and power cords, fax machines, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, batteries taped on one end, expanded polystyrene (block “Styrofoam” #6) – NO cups, egg-cartons nor food trays.

PLEASE CALL IN ADVANCE IF YOU WANT TO DROP-OFF MORE THAN 10 ITEMS OR ITEMS OVER 50 LBS.

For further information, contact the Greenbelt Recycling Office at 240-542-2153.

Join the Recreation Department arts program staff!

Now accepting applications
for two year-round, part-time positions:

Arts Education Specialist

Help coordinate visual arts classes and workshops for all ages. Help produce Artful Afternoons and other special events. 20 hrs/wk. \$12—\$17/hr.

Arts Program Assistant

Promote arts programs through print and online media. Help produce Artful Afternoons and other special events. Provide general program assistance. 12-15 hrs/wk. \$12—\$15/hr.

Open until filled.

Applications available at www.greenbeltnmd.gov. Please direct questions and completed applications to Nicole DeWald, Arts Supervisor: ndewald@greenbeltnmd.gov.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board and Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability
For information call 301-474-8000.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Greenbelt City Council has scheduled a **PUBLIC HEARING** To be held during the Regular Meeting of Council
Monday, April 22, 2013 at 8:00 p.m.

CONCERNING THE PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014 FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND EACH OF THE OTHER FUNDS OF THE CITY.

This is the first of two Public Hearings on the budget. The second will be held on Tuesday, May 28, 2013. Public attendance and participation are encouraged. All citizens of Greenbelt will have a reasonable opportunity to provide written and oral comments and to ask questions concerning the entire budget.

Copies of the proposed budget may be examined at the City Offices, 25 Crescent Rd., during normal operating hours, or downloaded from www.greenbeltnmd.gov. For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

Cindy Murray CMC
City Clerk

ACE AWARDS continued from page 1

He manages to keep all of the plates spinning with a positive, respectful, collaborative and humorous attitude and is effective in his many roles. Every day he brings to school an enthusiasm that he shares with staff, students and parents alike. His commitment to the students at Greenbelt Elementary School has earned him the respect of the community he serves. He promotes a challenging and productive learning environment for the staff and students and ensures that all students are successful as they strive for academic excellence.

Karnes came to the podium and indicated he had no prepared comments. “Dad, you’re going to have to wing it,” he said his daughter told him. He said that while a Bowie resident, Greenbelt is his second home and that the teachers and PTA have been very supportive.

Springhill Lake

Shana Sterkin is a proud teacher for third grade students and has been in this school for over 11 years. She is a wonderful asset to the students and staff of Springhill Lake Elementary.

This school year, Sterkin orchestrated a mock presidential election for the school and led professional development sessions for the staff on Common Core Reading content.

She developed and presented Professional Development at the Prince George’s County Systemic Principal’s Meeting in January and fosters a classroom environment that is rich in learning.

Sterkin’s students have thrived this year in all subject areas due to her creative and inventive approaches to presenting the curriculum. A reading specialist, her students performed at 95 percent proficiency on the FAST 2 reading benchmark assessment.

Her colleagues respect and appreciate the work she does for Springhill Lake. That’s why they selected her to receive an ACE Educator Award and are proud to have her at this school.

Sterken thanked everyone and commented that the principal and school encourage the use of new ideas.

Magnolia

Leonor Fernandez is a fourth grade teacher and has worked in education 21 years, the last two years at Magnolia Elementary School. Fernandez is a committed educator who is continually looking for ways to perfect her craft. She is the lead teacher for the Frameworks for Learning at Magnolia. In this role she teaches faculty how to apply these frameworks to their teaching but, most importantly, she leads by example as she designs lessons and activities that meet the needs of her students.

If you ask her about any student, she has a chart, form or notes on which she has detailed the strengths and weaknesses of the child. She is dedicated to differentiating her instruction. With this strategy she has taught her students how to work independently (sometimes in the hallway) while she re-teaches a small group of students that need a little extra help. It is not unusual to find Fernandez at Magnolia in the early morning hours or late into the evening.

The time that she spends here shows the dedication and commitment to her students. She is also a dedicated teacher in the Robot-

ics Club. Fernandez is a shining example of what it means to be an outstanding educator.

Fernandez stated that she is dedicated to the formation of every child entrusted to her care. Thanking Phyllis L. Gillens, the principal, she said “I found a home I enjoy living in.”

Turning Point Academy

Brenda Mayo is a fifth grade Language Arts and Social Studies teacher who has been at Turning Point Academy for two years, though she has worked in education for 25 years. She has proven herself to be dedicated, determined and dependable. With her students, Mayo is innovative, creative and motivating. With parents, she communicates in a consistent manner. She is a team leader and works well with other staff.

Mayo sets high expectations for all students and manages her classroom with a firm but friendly demeanor. She herself is eager to learn, is easily coached and effectively reflects on her teaching practices. The data substantiates Mayo’s success; her students receive proficient to advanced ratings. Brenda Mayo is truly an asset to the Turning Point family.

Mayo, a petite woman who said she was afraid she couldn’t be seen over the podium, was very appreciative of receiving the award. She loves teaching and loves the students.

Greenbelt Middle School

Robert Stradford has been with Greenbelt Middle School since August 2012. During his short tenure at the school he has single-handedly changed the dynamics of the educational program because of his innovative methods of teaching mathematics and how he incorporates technology within mathematics.

Stradford has created a learning environment that is exciting, rigorous and captivating because he uses 21st century technology to engage and stimulate the minds of his students. He also conducts weekly professional development opportunities for his colleagues so that they can incorporate the same practices within their classes.

Stratford commented that it is hard to accept recognition for his work. The award is a tremendous honor.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Sally Wagner is the ACE Educator awardee for Eleanor Roosevelt High School. One of her students describes her this way, “Ms. Wagner is an utterly amazing and downright inspiring woman. She is a teacher, mentor and friend to generations of students at ERHS and constantly gives more than she ever receives with no complaint.” Wagner lives passionately and enjoys sharing her passion about music and life with those who enter into her sphere of influence. In the 32 years that she has been a part of the Roosevelt family, she has devoted herself to developing the whole self for each of her students. Each year she raises the school’s bands to new heights.

Wagner, using fruit sales and other fundraisers to cover costs, is always looking for ways to broaden her students’ foundations through various concerts and by taking field trips around the county, state, country and the world. She brought joy to millions when she had the privilege to take one of the bands to China to perform during the 2008 Olympics.

This year during Spring Break

she has encouraged several members of the band and orchestra to go with the delegation from Eleanor Roosevelt to Kenya, Africa, to begin the music program at the Marmanet Secondary School. The students will bring music textbooks to use for teaching students to play the recorder.

The highlight of the year for her is the last concert; she alternates between the All Band Concert and the Mass Band Concert. She invites former Eleanor Roosevelt band members to come and play with the current students on the years that she has the All Band Concert. The performance is always delightful and helps show our students that their love of music and what they are doing will continue to help them in the future.

ERHS Principal Reginald McNeill accepted the award for Wagner, who was in South Carolina at a ceremony where her daughter was receiving a school honor.

Each award winner will receive gifts and certificates to commemorate his or her success. From ACE, there is an engraved red and gold apple, the well-recognized symbol of education. Mirsky commented that “We also have an ACE T-shirt, which, as a long-standing tradition, we invite all award winners to wear when they walk with us in the Labor Day Festival Parade in September. Certificates of recognition are from the city, county and state.”

Among those present to congratulate the awardees was Prince George’s County School Board Member Peggy Higgins and Greenbelt’s representative on the Prince George’s County Council, Ingrid Turner. As it was also the last day of the Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session, State Senator Paul Pinsky and State Delegates Anne Healey, Tawanna Gaines and Alonzo Washington were not able to attend. Sarah Verbofsky, community liaison for Washington, represented them. Members of council also congratulated the winners.

Mirsky noted that in addition to the certificates, Turner annually has donated \$2,000 to the ACE scholarship fund and Healey has awarded a House of Delegates Scholarship at the annual ACE Student Awards. Mirsky added, “I think it is also important to thank all of the family members, school staff and parent-teacher organization members who are here to support the awardees. The success of each of us is dependent on the help and support that we receive from family and team members.”

ASG Meeting Talk Is With Tim Livengood

The next meeting of the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will be on Thursday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Howard B. Owens Science Center, 9601 Greenbelt Road (adjacent to DuVal High School in Lanham).

Planetary astrophysicist Dr. Tim Livengood is the featured speaker and will present “Beneath the Watery Moon,” using neutron remote-sensing to explore the tenuous but real water cycle of the Moon. Livengood, a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, received his Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins University Department of Physics and Astronomy. All are welcome.

Greenbelt Baseball

Major League Standings as of April 15

National League		American League	
	<u>W-L</u>		<u>W-L</u>
Cardinals	3-0	Tigers	2-0
Giants	3-0	Indians	0-1
Cubs	1-1	Athletics	0-2
Nationals	0-2	Orioles	0-3

Major League Schedule April 22 through 27

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Games</u>
Monday, April 22	6 p.m.	Tigers vs. Cubs
Tuesday, April 23	6 p.m.	Indians vs. Orioles
Wed., April 24	6 p.m.	Tigers vs. Athletics
Thurs., April 25	6 p.m.	Indians vs. Nationals
Friday, April 26	6 p.m.	Orioles vs. Cardinals
*Friday, April 26	7 p.m.	Cubs vs. Athletics
Sat., April 27	10 a.m.	Nationals vs. Giants
Sat., April 27	1 p.m.	Make-up game if necessary

Most games are played at McDonald Field off Southway.

*Game played at Braden #2.

PROPOSAL continued from page 1

in the council’s Standing Rules. The other approach would be to address the issue by ordinance. Manzi found the first to be easier, but it would not provide for any penalty other than censure. The second, he said, could provide a penalty and also could apply to city employees. Manzi said neither procedure was “perfect.”

In his agenda comments, McLaughlin says, “Last fall, council indicated the need for an ordinance providing a definition of confidential information and a defined course of action to be taken for individuals who disseminate confidential information improperly.”

A search of city council minutes by News Review staff finds no record of council consideration of this matter at any public meeting between the July 9 referral and the April 8 meeting at which McLaughlin submitted the drafted ordinance.

Ordinance Details

Section 2-4. Confidential

information (a) “Confidential information shall be any information received by . . . [any councilmember or city employee] where such information is clearly intended to be limited to persons authorized to use such information or documents, whether verbally or in writing. This definition shall include any documentation which is stamped confidential by the person sending such information.”

(b) “No [councilmember or city employee] shall, without proper legal authorization, disclose confidential information whether verbally or in writing.”

(c) “Upon being informed that confidential information has been improperly disseminated . . . the City Manager shall have an investigation undertaken to ascertain whether such is true”

(d) “Violation of this section shall be considered a misdemeanor or punishable by incarceration of up to . . . thirty (30) days and a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00.”

GIVE BLOOD, GIVE LIFE

Tuesday, April 23, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.,
Seventh Day Adventists World Headquarters,
12501 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring
Thursday, April 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.,
U.S. Bankruptcy Court of the District of Md.,
(Donors will be entered in a raffle for \$50 gift card.)
6500 Cherrywood Lane, Greenbelt
Thursday, May 2, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,
Fortis College, 4351 Garden City Drive, Ardmore
Friday, May 3, 12:30 to 6 p.m.,
Greenbelt Community Center, 15 Crescent Road,
Greenbelt
Saturday, May 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.,
Covenant Community Baptist Church, East Community
Center, 3310 Gateshead Manor Way, Silver Spring
Monday, May 13, 1:30 to 7:30 p.m.,
Knights of Columbus Prince George’s Council,
9450 Cherry Hill Road, College Park

1-800-00-RED-CROSS

COUNCIL continued from page 1

does not occur until legislation is introduced for second reading and adoption.

Another purchase requiring a resolution is that of a new emergency back-up generator. The current one, only 12.5 kW, was purchased in 1978 when the need was essentially just for emergency lighting and for the fire alarm system. Insufficient for today’s needs, staff says it is no longer serviceable.

An amount of \$90,000 has been allocated in the Fiscal Year 2013 Building Capital Reserve Fund to replace the generator. Staff had hoped to purchase one that would provide enough emergency power for the entire Municipal Building, which houses the city’s information technology (IT) hub, the public access TV channel and an emergency videoconferencing system.

The cost for a 350 kW generator was \$190,000 for one that runs on diesel fuel; a natural gas unit would cost an additional \$100,000 according to staff notes. A natural gas unit, would not have to be refilled during an outage and is therefore preferred.

Gas United Preferred

Instead, staff recommends a 60 kW natural gas unit that could power essential systems such as emergency lighting, alarms, essential IT systems, public access channels and possibly a few other uses. It will be insufficient, however, for running the HVAC system or the elevator. Staff recommends that such a unit be purchased from Cummins Power Systems for \$48,916 with some

additional costs for site preparation and landscaping.

Jordan introduced the resolution for first reading.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts asked what will be done with the old generator. He said since it is mechanical it is probably more dependable than the new one will be. He hoped the city would either find another use for it or would sell it, since it probably had not run enough to have worn out. He felt confident parts would still be available. The mayor then asked Assistant City Manager David Moran to find out why Public Works thinks it is unserviceable.

Police Signage

A report from the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee concluded that signs around the city are inadequate for directing people to the police department. Betty Timer and Ginny Jones of the committee, present at the meeting, addressed the report.

Timer pointed out that people are advised to go to a safe place, such as a police department, to get out of their car when being followed or when they find themselves in another suspicious situation.

Jones said someone had stopped her one day to ask for directions to the police department and she noted it had not been easy to describe how to get there. Councilmembers agreed that this is an important public safety issue, which they then referred to the Public Safety Advisory Committee, the Advisory Planning Board and the Planning Department.

BCWWG Quarterly Meeting Is Apr. 25

On Thursday, April 25 the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group (BCWWG) will hold its quarterly meeting in Room 103 at the Greenbelt Community Center from 7 to 9 p.m. All are invited to come learn about issues affecting the watershed and meet local activists and researchers working to improve local quality of life. The meeting is co-sponsored by BCWWG and the GHI Woodlands Committee.

The speaker will be Susan Harris, who will give a spring talk on “Reducing, Replacing or Growing a More Natural Lawn.” Harris is a gardening writer and coach who has written articles for the News Review and is a member of the national Lawn Reform Coalition, which advocates for less lawn and more natural care for the remaining turf grass.

For more information contact Mark Christal at 301-919-6420 or christalm@me.com.

Farmers Market Seeks Volunteers

The Greenbelt Farmers Market (GFM) is seeking volunteers for this year’s market season. Those interested in helping are invited to attend a GFM Volunteers Meeting on Sunday, April 28 at 11 a.m. in room 103 at the Greenbelt Community Center.

Visit www.greenbeltfarmersmarket.org for details.



HALL RENTALS

(CATERING)

Luncheons–B'Day Parties–Anniversaries–Weddings

Greenbelt American Legion Post 136
6900 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, Md.
301-345-0136
managerpost136@comcast.net
Contact Steve Messer

OPEN HOUSE
May 1, 2013
9:00 AM-2:00 PM
Call today to schedule an appointment for a school tour.

St. Joseph’s Regional Catholic School offers:

- ◆ A full day Pre-K (4 year old) program
- ◆ Before and after school Extended Care Program
 - ◆ 5 day a week lunch program
 - ◆ Small class sizes
 - ◆ Big results!

St. Joseph’s Regional Catholic School offers Pre-K through 8th grade:

- ◆ A spiritual setting intended to mold the student’s character and values of faith, hope, love and service to others
- ◆ An academically rigorous program by a motivated, diverse staff dedicated to excellence
- ◆ A learning environment with modern technology integrated into every day learning to prepare students as future leaders and critical global thinkers
- ◆ A social setting which allows students to create bonds with peers and adults that will transform them into dynamic citizens
- ◆ A safe location for before and after school care with supervised activities

11011 Montgomery Road, Beltsville, MD 20705
301-937-7154 - www.stjos.org

These are just a few of the great buys you will find at Co-op this week!

Prices Effective: APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

121 CENTERWAY–ROOSEVELT CENTER GREENBELT, MARYLAND
Visit us online at www.greenbelt.coop

SUPERMARKET
Monday thru Saturday 9 a.m. until 9 p.m.
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Fresh Value Pack Chicken Leg Quarters 79¢ <small>lb.</small>		Fresh Picked Sweet Corn 50¢ <small>White/Bi-color ear</small>		Shurfine Orange Juice \$1⁹⁹ <small>64 oz.</small>	Shurfine Select Vegetables & Blends \$1²⁵ <small>16 oz.</small>		Frozen Swai Fillets \$2⁹⁹ <small>1 lb.</small>		
Fresh Value Pack Boneless Country Style Spare Ribs \$2⁹⁹ <small>lb.</small>		Fresh Sweet Vidalia Onions 99¢ <small>lb.</small>		Shedd's Assorted Country Crock Vegetable Spread \$2⁰⁰ <small>15 oz.</small>	McCain Assorted Potato Cuts & Fries \$2⁰⁰ <small>19-32 oz.</small>		Phillips Frozen Crab Pretzels \$4⁹⁹ <small>7 oz.</small>		
Grocery Bargains				<div>Customer Appreciation Discount Day</div> <div>Wednesday, April 24</div> <div>5% Discount to ALL customers on ALL purchases (except stamps and gift cards)</div>		Grocery Bargains			
Starkist Chunk Light Tuna \$1⁰⁰ <small>5 oz.</small>		Hunt's Assorted Diced Tomatoes \$1⁰⁰ <small>14.5 oz.</small>				Shurfine Spaghetti or Macaroni \$1⁰⁰ <small>12-16 oz.</small>		Shurfine Pasta Sauces \$1⁰⁰ <small>Assorted 24 oz.</small>	
Kraft Assorted Mayonnaise \$3⁰⁰ <small>22-32 oz.</small>		Bush's Best Baked Beans \$1⁸⁸ <small>Assorted 22-28 oz.</small>				Arm & Hammer Liquid Laundry Detergent \$2⁸⁸ <small>45-50 oz.</small>		Nabisco Assorted Chips Ahoy Cookies \$2⁵⁰ <small>9.5-15.5 oz.</small>	
Deli		Bakery		Natural & Gourmet		Health & Beauty		Beer & Wine	
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Deli Gourmet Provolone Cheese \$4⁹⁹ <small>lb.</small>		Fresh Store Baked 8-inch Rhubarb Pie \$3⁹⁹		Emeril Gourmet Mustards \$2⁶⁹ <small>Assorted 12 oz.</small>		Claritin Allergy Relief \$8⁹⁹ <small>10-15 pack</small>		Magic Hat Beer \$7⁹⁹ <small>6 pk.-12 oz. bottles</small>	

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

April 7, 9:14 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane. A man rode in a taxi to the area of the Greenbelt Metro, displayed a handgun and demanded the taxi driver's property. No description of the robber is available.

DWI/DUI

April 5, 8:11 a.m., Crescent Road at Ridge Road. A 21-year-old Greenbelt woman was arrested and charged with multiple alcohol-related offenses, among other charges, after a traffic stop. She was released on citations pending trial.

Trespassing

April 10, 8:08 a.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway. A resident youth was petitioned for trespassing on posted property. He was released to the custody of his school's administrative staff pending notification to his guardian.

Burglary

April 5, 12:27 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. Electronics were taken.

April 7, 7:35 p.m., 7900 block Candlewood Place. Two generators were taken.

April 7, 8:41 p.m., 8300 block Canning Terrace. Two bicycles were taken from a backyard.

April 10, 9:08 a.m., 6100 Breezewood Drive. Electronics

Greenbelt Police Join MADD Annual Walk

Greenbelt's police department has formed a team to participate in the Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) annual "Walk Like MADD" event starting at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 11 on Federal Hill in Baltimore.

Almost 40 cities around the country will hold MADD walks, with thousands of people participating in 5K walks that day in a stand against drunk driving and underage drinking. Those interested in forming a team or who want to make a donation to the Greenbelt police team are asked to visit the walk website at www.walklikemadd.org. Select Baltimore, Md. The next screen provides options for starting or joining a team or making a donation. To contribute, search by team name and enter Greenbelt Police, then follow instructions.

were taken.

Vandalism

April 10, 10:34 a.m., 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace. A sliding glass door was damaged.

Vehicle Crime

A theft from an auto occurred in the 6300 block Ivy Lane (set of Md. tags).



We were sorry to hear of the death of longtime Greenbelter David Schalet, 77, on March 26, 2013. He was predeceased by his wife Alberta and daughter Clarissa. A graveside service for Mr. Schalet was held at the Greenbelt City Cemetery on Friday, March 29.

Congratulations to:

— Eleanor Roosevelt High School students Modibo Abbo and Carmin Chappell, who are among three county students and 800 nationwide receiving \$2,500 scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

— exceptional school employees, one for each public school serving Greenbelt students, awarded ACE Educator awards at a ceremony at the beginning of the April 8 Greenbelt City Council meeting, who include Sally Wagner, Eleanor Roosevelt High School; Robert Stradford, Greenbelt Middle School; Shana Sterkin, Springhill Lake Elementary School; Leonor Fernandez, Magnolia Elementary School; Brenda Mayo, Turning Point Academy; and Andrew Karnes, Greenbelt Elementary School.

— Greenbelt's Congressman Steny H. Hoyer, who received the Congressional Champion for Real and Lasting Change Award from Save the Children on April 10 and the Bright Beginnings' Champions for Children Award in recognition of his work in promoting the safety and well-being of children here and abroad.

2001 Eleanor Roosevelt High School graduate, U.S. Air Force Captain Karen Mealey, the daughter of Carol and John Mealey of Ridge Road, will deploy this week to the Middle East for six months. A veteran of an Iraq tour, she is stationed at Joint Base Charleston in South Carolina.

Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. We'd especially like to hear more from neighbors in Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West (Franklin Park). To send information for "Our Neighbors" email us at news-review@verizon.net or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

— Kathleen McFarland



PHOTO BY JESSICA SUSS

Kellen Murray, Quentin Walsh and Izzy Murray work on print making.

Print-making and Puppets Entertain Sunday Crowd

by Jessica Suss

A creative time was had by all at this month's Artful Afternoon, featuring a pottery sale furnished by the Greenbelt Pottery group, a sculpture exhibit by Matthew Janson, puppet performance art by Leila Ghaznavi and a print-making workshop run by resident artist Nora Simon.

Trafficked that afternoon by well over 80 people according to its founder Nicole DeWald, Artful Afternoon is in its 13th year and growing stronger, she says.

"Artful Afternoon offers people a gateway experience to come in and really get a feel for all the different things that happen in the building," DeWald said. "We have a great time and we're really grateful for the community's interest."

All of the exhibits were busy with community members buying pottery and experimenting with screen printing.

Attendee Lola Skolnik was especially looking forward to Ghaznavi's performance entitled "Beyond the Light," a piece that included shadow puppetry and dance.

"I like the performances because it's a great thing I can take my grandchildren to," Skolnik said. "They absolutely love them."

Simon's room of screen printing was a hive of activity.

Greenbelters dipped celery, green peppers and apples into paint and decorated muslin bags and colored paper. Resident artist Simon, whose craft is screen- and block-printing, wanted to have a craft that kids could do outside of Artful Afternoon as well.

"This project incorporates the ideas [of my craft] using simple techniques the kids can do at home with fruits and veggies," Simon said.

In the pottery room, studio participant Kathy Groen was happy she decided to participate in her first Artful Afternoon this month and can't wait to return.

"I've seen Artful Afternoon advertised a lot, I just hadn't been yet," Groen said. "I want to bring my kids next time."

Resident Artist Mary Gawlik, who is also a ceramic tile artist and a pottery instructor in the studios upstairs in the Community Center, feels that Artful Afternoon is a great way to give back to the community.

"They're an incredible value to families and people," Gawlik said. "All the people come away with a great art experience. [All the events] are high-quality and I think it really makes the arts accessible to people, I think it makes it really friendly."

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Call 1-866-411-TIPS. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.

Upcoming Events at New Deal Café

Thursday, April 18 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m., followed in the evening by an open microphone session with Joe Harris from 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday, April 19 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. John Guernsey plays classical and jazz piano, followed by psychedelia/jam band the Window Panes from 8 to 11 p.m.

On Saturday, April 20 Bruce Kritt plays classical guitar for 4 to 6 p.m. Guernsey plays up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m.; then The 8-Balls headline with music from the 60s and 70s from 8 to 11 p.m.

On Sunday, April 21 the weekly sign language brunch discussion is from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The Not 2 Cool Jazz Trio plays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by the monthly kid's open microphone session for the whole family from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. In the evening from 5 to 7 p.m., there will be live Middle Eastern music and dancing, with musicians playing the oud, darbuka and riq.

Next Week

Tuesday, April 23 Michael Kelly plays melodic acoustic guitar from 7 to 9 p.m. The monthly Cajun Music Jam will be on Wednesday, April 24 from 7 to 9 p.m. On Thursday, April 25 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m., followed in the evening by an open microphone session with the Songwriter's Association of Washington from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, April 26 begins with a book-signing from 4 to 6 p.m. with

Nancy Shaffer, author of "Accidentally on Purpose," a coffee table book designed to encourage people to reflect on life with fun. John Guernsey plays classical and jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m.; then Black Masala headlines with inspiration from Eastern European brass bands and New Orleans jazz from 8 to 11 p.m.

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A Review

Arts Center’s Big River Brings Us Tom and Huck

by Jim Link

To paraphrase Mark Twain: “Persons attempting to find a motive in Big River, the big musical now playing at the Greenbelt Arts Center, will be prosecuted; persons attempting to find a plot in it will be banished; persons failing to be completely thrilled by it will be shot.”

Driven by Roger Miller’s (“King of the Road”) Tony Award-winning bluegrass and country music and lyrics, this retelling of Huckleberry Finn’s and runaway slave Jim’s picaresque journey down the Mississippi is both haunting and joyous.

Veteran director Mary Lou Fisher has assembled a big orchestra – filling the pit inside with fiddles, harmonica, trombone, trumpet, percussion and piano [inside our itty bitty black-box theater] – to celebrate Huck’s awakening conscience regarding his slave buddy’s basic decency and humanity and his increasing awareness of the lurid, uncouth hypocrisy of 1840s slaveholding America.

All of Twain’s chestnuts are here: Huck and Tom Sawyer’s adventuring in Indian Cave, Miss Watson and the Widow Douglas trying to “civilize” Huck, his drunken abusive Pappy, Huck and Jim bonding under the stars on Jackson Island and drifting on their raft, those philistine frauds the Duke and the King with their hilarious Royal Nonesuch and Jim’s eventual, miraculous manumission.

Choreographer Kathleen Moors uses her small space and numerous characters to great effect. The stage is always crowded with calico dresses and bonnets, cowboy hats and coverall jeans constantly entering and exiting, singing and dancing. (Live actors are in the clothing.) Crowded, yes, but never cluttered.

The chemistry between Huck and Jim is excellent. Mike Culhane’s adolescent, aw-shucks, male ingenue Huck is very convincing, while Kevin Sockwell’s Jim is powerfully superb.

Sockwell has a wonderful bass-baritone voice and can really act. His Jim is vulnerable, tender, intelligent, strong and nuanced – never a caricature. Sockwell and Culhane are excellent together singing “Worlds Apart” and “River in the Rain.”

Sockwell and the other slaves give a boffo rendition of “Free At Last” and the whole company ends with a rousing performance of “Muddy Water.”

Some memorable lines include Miss Watson’s (the versatile Penny Martin) warning to Huck: “You have to read and write to get to heaven!” And Huck’s crisis of conscience when he decides to break the law by not turning Jim over to the authorities – “All right then – I’ll GO



PHOTO BY ANDREW CULHANE

Civilizing Huck (Mike Culhane), Widow Douglas (Trix Whitehall of Greenbelt), Jim (Kevin Sockwell) and Miss Watson (Penny Martin of Greenbelt).

to hell!”

And Huck’s farewell to the audience, none of whom were shot and so must have been completely thrilled: “Aunt Sally wants to adopt me and civilize me – I been there before. I’m lightin’ out for the western territory!”

Big River plays through May 4 at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. on April 21 and 28.

Peace & Justice Seeks Peace Month Activities

This city has agreed to again proclaim June as Peace Month in Greenbelt according to the Prince George’s Peace and Justice Coalition.

The Coalition encourages local organizations to sponsor peace-related activities of all kinds – lectures, discussions, videos, music, art or service projects. Events can be as simple as giving a usual gathering a special peace theme and inviting the community to attend. The hope is that many groups will participate so Peace Month will be a vital reality throughout the city.

City facilities are available or can be reserved for events – to arrange events, groups can contact Assistant City Manager David Moran at dmoran@greenbeltmd.gov or through the city office at 301-474-8000.

Each group may publicize its event in whatever ways it thinks best. To have it included in the city’s Peace Month printed calendar, send basic information – what/where/when/contact person

– by April 30 to Peace & Justice Coalition member Lucy Duff at justpeacepg@earthlink.net or 301-577-2350. Until late May additional details or information may be sent on later-planned events for coverage in a Peace Month 2013 preview story intended as an article for the beginning of June.

Nat'l Gallery Offers Free Classical Concert

On Monday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. the National Gallery of Art invites the public to a free concert by Mykola Suk, pianist, with National Gallery of Art and Phillips Camerata resident musicians. The program features Beethoven’s Concerto No. 5 and will take place in the West Garden Court.

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YARD SALES

FLEA MARKET – Saturday, May 11, 2013, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m., Glenn Dale Fire House, 11900 Glenn Dale Blvd., Glenn Dale, MD. 8 ft. space rental, \$15. For reservations and information, call 301-852-8540, leave a voicemail or text message or email us at auxgdfal8@aol.com.

FLEA MARKET – Glenn Dale United Methodist Church, Saturday, April 27. Spaces available. Call 301-390-6640.

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***Your Greenbelt Specialists
In Roosevelt Center***

LETTERS continued from page 1

of local students could not be achieved without the generous contributions of this family of donors. The DCMSF has minimal administrative costs so that virtually all money collected goes for the award.

As the end of the donation year approaches and we shift to selecting this year’s ERHS student recipient, we thank our supporters who believe in assisting local young people in their educational goals. We are excited to be able to sustain our presence at ERHS and share David Craig’s story again this year. The scholarship will be awarded on Thursday, May 16 at 6 p.m. at the school at the Senior Awards Ceremony.

We also encourage those who believe in helping others reach their goals to consider donating before April 30 or in the coming year’s drive. To contribute to the fund, send checks to: DCMSF, PO Box 761, Greenbelt, MD 20768.

Douglas A. Mangum
President
David Craig Memorial
Scholarship Fund

Temporary Tax Increase
For Short-Term Needs

Some have insisted the proposed increase in city property taxes is a grudging duty, undesired but necessary to sustain local government while property values remain “low.” Yet surely a temporary problem requires only a temporary solution? If the city wants to spare residents a permanent additional burden, instead of a short-term gap-closing measure, leaders have other choices to make, beyond the

obvious and arguably overdue belt-tightening.

First, I am confident – despite the claims of contrarians – that the higher tax rate could be made temporary. It could include a sunset clause to expire in, say, two years or maybe when some index of property values returns to a level which restores city revenues to their current, generous volume.

Naysayers will insist a sitting council cannot compel a future council to cut taxes. Perhaps, but I see no reason why a sitting council cannot make its own actions temporary if it wants to. Besides, barring a fatality, the membership of the next Greenbelt City Council is almost certainly going to be identical to the current council. Can’t these same seven people keep a promise that lasts longer than two years? Where there is a will, there is almost certainly a way; as much as some will try to claim the will but deny the way, the reverse is more likely true. After all, a sunset clause would hardly prevent any future council from renewing the temporary tax hike if they saw the need.

Second and additionally, to further protect the vulnerable from the brunt of yet another increased government bill if home values continue to climb as forecast, council could adopt the Homestead Tax Credit (HTC) that applies in all unincorporated portions of this county: currently 2 percent instead of Greenbelt’s state-compelled 10 percent, a lesser protection. In other words, if council acted to place our HTC in line with the county and assessed values rose, residents

would be buffered from and not buffeted by steep increases in property tax bills, as year-to-year surges in taxable values would be capped at 2 percent. Thus Greenbelt’s elderly, the unemployed and those on limited incomes would be shielded from pernicious future bubbles, all the while sparing the city budget from volatility. With the citizenry at heart, how could our leaders oppose that?

Predictably, to find serious solutions, it’s necessary to look under rocks, leaving none unturned. Assuming charitably, of course, that a solution to higher taxes is being sought by our local leaders and their editorial allies. Forgive me if that sounds too positive amidst all the tactical gloom emanating from our tax-raising politicians lately.

So council can hold off the pending tax rate increase by cutting spending (appropriate but unlikely) or make the increase temporary (advisable) and bring our Homestead Tax Credit in line with the rest of the county (foresighted and compassionate). Gone is the excuse that our local government doesn’t want to raise taxes permanently but somehow “must.”

Andy Carruthers

Editor's Note: All property tax levies are made for a one year period only, therefore each tax increase is already grandfathered. A city council could commit itself to a future tax reduction, but that commitment would not apply to any newly elected councilmember and would solely be enforceable by the electorate at city elections.

City Fitness Teacher Puts
It All in Writing in New Book

by Jim Link

Nancy Cox Shaffer, popular longtime Senior Fitness teacher at Greenbelt Community Center, is very excited about the publication of her new book. “Accidentally On Purpose: 50 Thoughts on Living Life” is “designed to promote holistic lifestyles; its greatest benefit is to encourage confidence in your body,” Shaffer explains with her characteristic enthusiasm.

“My routine for over 25 years in the gym at the Community Center has included music, stretching, modified cardiovascular movement, using weights (strength training) and occasionally walking around Greenbelt Lake. This has proven to me the benefits of exercise and social interaction as we age, because I’ve seen it.”

Shaffer is a certified counselor and Healing Touch practitioner who has been teaching in Prince George’s Community College’s SAGE program (Seniors Aging with Grace and Excellence) since 1984.

Some of her students have been with her for over 20 years, moving from their 60s into their 80s. “They show me that many

chronic diseases can be prevented by our choice of lifestyle,” she says.

Shaffer’s book is only 100 pages long with 50 photos on the left, faced with an appropriate thought on the right. “The picture draws you into the emotional side of the thought on the opposite page. For example, I have a cute kitty with her eyes closed, thoroughly relaxed, facing onto the thought, ‘Our natural state is to be at ease.’

“You can open the book to any page any day and snatch a thought to reflect on as you live a healthy lifestyle.”

You can buy “Accidentally On Purpose” at Amazon.com or Createspace.com or by calling Shaffer at 301-552-1490 or emailing stretchingbeyond@gmail.com.

Shaffer was delighted that “my mom was at my first book signing in March in Erwin, Tenn.”

Come see Shaffer accidentally on purpose, so to speak, at her next book signing on Friday, April 26 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the New Deal Café. There will be music and refreshments. Stretching is optional.



Silver Moon Café 2 for \$22 Twilight Dinner Special
Tuesday through Thursday 5PM-7PM
Starting Tuesday April 23, 2013

Choice of Appetizer
Hand Crafted Soup of the Day
Fresh Garden Salad with choice of dressing

Choice of Entree
NY Strip Steak with Peppercorn Demi Glace
Chicken Marsala
Fettucini Carbonara
Add Shrimp for \$4 More
Orange Roughy Filet with a Cucumber Dill Sauce
Veal Scaloppini with Potato Gnocchi
All Non Pasta Dishes served with choice of Rice pilaf, or Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables

Finishing Touch (Please Choose one of the following)
Fruit Tart, Peach Cobbler, Apple Pie

Dine in Please, No Substitutions, Tax and Gratuity NOT Included,
Silver Moon Café Special Only, Reservations Only for 8 to 20
20% Gratuity added for parties of 6 or more, No Other Discounts Apply



Weekend Dinner Special
Starting April 25, 2013

Rack It Up Menu - \$15
Thursday, Friday & Saturday
starting at 5:00PM

Garden Fresh Salad
Half Rack of Baby Back Ribs
Choice of Baked Potato or French
Fries and served with Cole Slaw



Greenbelt Marriott
6400 Ivy Lane
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
301-441-3700

Dine in Please, No Substitutions, Tax and Gratuity NOT Included,
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20% Gratuity added for parties of 6 or more, No Other Discounts Apply